



MEETING SUMMARY

Commerce LAC Meeting #2

June 24, 2008

6:30PM – 8:00 PM

City Hall Emergency Operations Center
2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, California

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS: Committee members present were Councilmember Joe Aguilar, Angelo Logan, Jose Zambrano, Maria Becerra and Mario Sotelo (Chair).

Committee members absent were Councilmember Bob Eula and Eddie Tafoya.

Also in attendance were: Councilmember Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce; Alex Hamilton, City of Commerce; Linda Wright, City of Commerce.

Member of the Project Team attending the meeting were: Devon Cichoski, Metro; Garrett Damarath, Caltrans; Jerry Wood, GCCOG; Jack Waldron, URS; Jayna Goodman, LSA; Yesenia Arias, Arellano Associates; Kayleen Maya-Aviles, VPE, and Becky Draper, MIG.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

SCHEDULED MATTERS:

1. I-5/I-710 Coordination Plan

The **Committee** will discuss their comments regarding the I-5/I-710 Coordination Plan, and thereafter will provide their feedback to Metro.

NOTES:

Commerce LAC Meeting #2
MEETING SUMMARY
Page 1 of 6



Metro



Rebecca Draper of MIG gave an overview of the 1-5/1-710 Coordination Plan. Copies of the I-5/I710 Coordination Plan were available for members' reference.

The following points were discussed:

- The I-710 community participation process and how that will be applied to the I-5 project.
- The governing body for the I-5 project is the I-5 JPA.
- The community may also make comments and recommendations to the Commerce City Council. Commerce is a member of the I-5 JPA.
- The process by which LAC provides input to both projects.
- The Committee will be providing input throughout the process; and especially during the technical analysis.
- The projects' point of intersection with the Washington Blvd. interchange. Also discussed were the geometrical designs and how they will be matched at the interchange.
- The alignment of the project schedules. It was discussed that they approximately are two months apart and that the coordination effort would ensure a seamless process for the Committee.
- The I-5 flow chart will be provided to Committee members on June 25th.
- The LAC would like to see a chart depicting oversight of the I-5 project added to the coordination plan.
- The meeting schedule and announcements can be made public via the Metro project website and at the City provided the Committee decides to do this.

Other I-710 meetings coming up include:

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting is scheduled for August 13th.
- Project Committee (PC) meeting is scheduled for August 21st at 6 pm.

2. Update - Regarding the EIR/EIS I-710 Corridor Project Process

The **Committee** will receive a report on, and thereafter will consider and take the appropriate action with respect to, an update by Metro regarding the EIR/EIS I-710 Corridor Project.

NOTES:

Rebecca Draper of MIG distributed CEQA/NEPA handouts for the Committee to review. Included were an EIR/EIS Glossary, EIR/EIS Process Graphic, and EIR/EIS FAQs.

Jayna Goodman of LSA Associates was introduced to give the Committee an overview of the EIR/EIS project process.

The project is funded by state and federal agencies. Because of that, the EIR falls under CEQA guidelines and the EIS falls under the NEPA process.

These documents have been developed to help the community understand the EIR/EIS process. We encourage your input and comments.

The following points were discussed:

- CEQA has a higher standard than NEPA in regards to environmental commitments and mitigation for the project
- Comments provided in Tier 2 would need to be resubmitted during circulation of the Draft EIR/EIS in order to be considered in the current process. [We are in the Initiate step of the process right now.]

Rebecca Draper provided an overview of the outreach process and distributed an updated version of the project's Outreach Activities graphic.

- The outreach team has conducted the first round of meetings in the cities of Paramount, Lynwood, East Los Angeles, Long Beach, Maywood, Vernon, Huntington Park, South Gate, Cudahy and Commerce.
- The TAC and PC meetings are scheduled in August. The Executive Committee meeting has not been scheduled yet.
- The first round of subject working group meetings will likely take place in October.
- The Committee should finalize their appointment to the Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC) by our next meeting on 7/22/08.
- In reference to collateral materials, our team launched the project website in May. We are working on developing a video, newsletter and a new series of fact sheets. Fact sheet topics include air quality, goods movement, safety and environmental justice.

The following points were discussed in response:

- The video script has been reviewed and approved by the Project Team and the Project Partners. The Project Team and the Project Committee will have a chance to view the video prior to it being released.
- The project funders are Metro, Caltrans, GCCOG, SCAG, I-5 JPA, Port of LA, and Port of Long Beach. The project partners are listed by logo at the bottom of all our outreach materials.
- Angelo Logan requested the Project Team notify the members of the former Tier 1 and Tier 2 Committees that the EIR/EIS process has begun.

Technical Team Overview

Jack Waldron of URS presented a brief overview of the technical process. At this point, his team is collecting data for the scoping meetings. This includes:

- Aerial mapping to develop engineering plans are well underway and will be completed by the end of next month.
- Traffic data collection along the corridor is being conducted.
- A traffic forecasting study is underway to help form a basis for a need statement for the project.
- Another study is the alternative technology study.
- Other issues under study include:
 - The hybrid design - Federal Highway Administration and Caltrans with other funding partners are meeting to look at areas of alignment for possible improvements to the hybrid design.
 - In Commerce, they are focusing on the Atlantic/Bandini intersection
 - Possible removal of Washington Blvd. Ramps
 - They are looking at different alternatives

The following points were discussed:

- Traffic counts are being conducted at specific times of the day at specific intersections.
- The variation in traffic due to port activity will be addressed through direct coordination with the ports.
- The hybrid design resulted from the MCS study and the community's feedback. The design avoids residential property acquisition.

Next Steps:

- Meet with the utility companies to get a feel for what can be done within their rights-of-way.
- That design concept will come back to this group during the outreach process.

3. Subject Working Groups for the I-710 EIR/EIS Corridor Project

The **Committee** will discuss if any member(s) would like to serve on any of the Subject Working Groups for the I-710 EIR/EIS Corridor Project, which includes Environmental, Transportation and Community Design/Economics, and thereafter will provide names of proposed participants to Metro.

NOTES:

- This Committee will decide whom it will appoint to the CAC by the next meeting and subject working groups by September.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for July 22nd.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

COMMERCE
LAC
MEETING
JUNE 24, 2008

I-5/I-710

- ▷ HOW DOES I-5 MIRROR I-710 FRAMEWORK?
- ▷ HOW DOES FEEDBACK GET INCORPORATED?
- ▷ FORMAL DOCUMENT INPUT PROCESS?
 - PURPOSE & NEEDS
 - TECHNICAL ANALYSIS
- ▷ INPUT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT PROCESS
 - CLOSER TO DECISION MAKERS FOR I-5
- ▷ ARE PROJECTS' SCHEDULES PARALLEL?
 - WILL BE SEAMLESS FOR COMMERCE LAC
- ▷ WHERE DO THE PROJECTS MEET?
 - WASHINGTON BLVD

- ▷ CARMENITA CONTAMINATION?
 - LIKELY ISOLATED INCIDENT
- ▷ GEOMETRICS - WILL THEY BE MATCHED AT INTERCHANGE?
- ▷ WASHINGTON CLOSURE QUESTIONS
 - OTHER OPTIONS
- ▷ FLOWCHART/FRAMEWORK I-5
- ▷ NOTICING OF MEETINGS

CEQA/NEPA

- ▷ ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS VS. MITIGATION?
 - FOR CALTRANS THEY WORK THE SAME
- ▷ CEQA HAS HIGHER STANDARD
- ▷ HOW DOES TIER II FIT INTO PROCESS?
 - IT'S THE STARTING POINT FOR THIS PROJECT (LPS)
 - PRESCOPING GUIDANCE
- ▷ WILL TIER II COMMENTS NEED TO BE RESTATED?
 - LARGELY INCORPORATED
 - CAC COMPARISON (TIER II / EIR-EIS)



I-710 EIR/EIS Corridor Project
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